

Message Text

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S/-O: MTANNER

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R 222121Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

S E C R E T STATE 251280

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEL AVIV 6575 ACTION SECSTATE 16 OCT 75

QUOTE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 6575

EXDIS

EMVO.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFRO, XA, IS

SUBJECT: ALLON ON AFRICA

1. WHEN I MET WITH FONMIN ALLON ON OCT. 14, HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD FOUND MOST USEFUL HIS ROUND OF MEETINGS IN NEW YOK WITH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS, MOST OF WHICH WERE HELD WITHOUT FUNFARE AND AWAY FROM THE GLARE OF PUBLICITY. HE WAS DEEPLY IMPRESSED WITH THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF KENYA, SIERRA LEONE, ETHIOPU, ZAMBIA AND LIBERIA AND HAD BEEN INFORMED INDIRECTLY OF VIEW OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF ZAIRE. ALL, ALLON SAID , WERE MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN AFRICA, PARTICULARLY

THE INCREASE IN SOVIET INFLUENCE IN LIBYA, ERITREA, SOMALIA AND

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UGANDA AND THE CONTINUED STRENGTHENING OF THE CHINESE PRESENCE

IN TANZANIA. ALL WERE EQUALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA AND HOPED THAT THE MODERATE ELEMENTS, WITH SUPPORT FROM THE UNITED STATES AND WESTERN EUROPE, WOULD ULTIMATELY GAIN THE UPPER HAND IN THAT TROUBLED PART OF THE CONTINENT.

2. ALL OF HIS AFRICAN INTERLOCUTORS STRESSED TO ALLON THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASED ATTENTION BY THE UNITED STATES TO THE DEVELOPING SOVIET THREAT. ALL FELT STRONGLY THAT UNTIL NOW THE UNITED STATES HAD NEGLECTED THE AFRICAN CONTINENT--PARTICULARLY IN THE LAST TWO YEARS--AND UNLESS THERE IS REVIVED INTEREST IN AND ATTENTION TO AFRICAN AFFAIRS THEY FEARED THAT THE RADICAL ELEMENTS, AIDED AND ABETTED BY THE SOVIET AND CHINESE PRESENCE, WOULD GAIN THE UPPER HAND. ALLON ASKED THAT I BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF SECRETARY KISSINGER THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY THE AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WHICH HE SAID HE SHARED.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING RELATIONS, ALLON FELT THAT SIGNS WERE ENCOURAGING BUT FEW AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE PREPARED TO MOVE NOW. THEY ARE PREPARED, HOWEVER, TO ENTERTAIN AN INCREASED ISRAELI TRADE AND TECHNICAL AID PRESENCE, AND THE ISRAELIS

PLAN TO MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION. SO FAR AS HE COULD ASCERTAIN FROM HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH THE AFRICANS, ALLON FELT THAT WHILE EGYPT HAD NOT SAID ANYTHING POSITIVE ON THE QUESTION OF THE AFRICANS' RESTORING RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL SHE HAD MADE NO ATTEMPT TO DISCOURAGE THE IDEA AND THIS, IN HIS VIEW, WAS COMPLYING WITH HER COMMITMENTS UNDER THE SINAI II AGREEMENT.

4. I TOLD ALLON THAT I WOULD REPORT HIS VIEWS ON THE AFRICAN SITUATION

TO THE SECRETARY INCLUDING HIS ADVICE THAT WE PAY MORE ATTENTION TO AFRICAN AFFAIRS THAN WE HAD IN RECENT MONTHS. I POINTED OUT TO ALLON THAT HE MUST UNDERSTAND THE PRESSURES ON THE SECRETARY AND THE DEMANDS ON HIS TIME; UNDOUBTEDLY IT WAS PRIMARILY FOR THIS REASON, RATHER THAN CONSCIOUS NEGLECT, THAT THE SECRETARY HAD NOT DEVOTED THE ATTENTION TO AFRICAN AFFAIRS THAT AFRICAN LEADERS FEEL IS REQUIRED.

TOOP

UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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